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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Applicant respectfully submits that the express mail number provided on page 1 of the specification beneath line 35 should be deleted. A marked-up copy of this amendment is provided herewith as a convenience to the Examiner.

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PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING AND ENRICHING
CELL-SPECIFIC TARGET STRUCTURES

5 DESCRIPTION:

10 The present invention relates to a process for identifying and enriching cell-specific target structures, in particular for the identification of cell-specific protein combination patterns on cell surfaces and for enriching such cells.

15 Identifying cell-specific target structures is crucial for elucidating cell-to-cell interactions which may cause countless effects within an organism. Especially, knowing disease-specific target structures is a decisive prerequisite for developing effective drugs which at the same time only have few side effects.

20 It is known from the prior art that immune cells (lymphocytes) will express specific combinations of proteins, also referred to as protein combination patterns or, in short, PCP, which are responsible for binding to endothelioid cells of the blood vessels in the brain and in muscle tissue. Other protein combinations, however, will not result in any binding to such endothelioid cells. Surprisingly, these specific combinations are inter-individually consistent, always exhibiting the same binding functions. Consequently, the specific protein combination patterns seem to be an inter-individually consistent lymphocyte binding code of the cell surface for organ-specific endothelioid cell surfaces which represents a cell-specific target structure. Cell-specific target structures may thus exhibit quite specific protein combination patterns.

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